



IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING CROSS-CONNECTION AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION ON IRRIGATION SYSTEMS. THIS INFORMATION IS TAKEN FROM THE "CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION MANUAL", INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT.

WHAT IS "BACKFLOW"?

THE FLOW OF CONTAMINANTS INTO THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FROM A SOURCE OTHER THAN THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

WHY IS BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIRED?

NO PLUMBING FIXTURE, DEVICE, OR CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE INSTALLED OR MAINTAINED OR SHALL BE CONNECTED TO ANY DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY, WHEN SUCH INSTALLATION OR CONNECTION MAY PROVIDE A POSSIBILITY OF POLLUTING SUCH WATER SUPPLY OR MAY PROVIDE A CROSS CONNECTION BETWEEN A DISTRIBUTING SYSTEM OF WATER FOR DRINKING AND DOMESTIC PURPOSES AND WATER WHICH MAY BECOME CONTAMINATED BY SUCH PLUMBING FIXTURE DEVICES OR CONSTRUCTION UNLESS THERE IS PROVIDED AN APPROVED BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE.

WHO GOVERNS THESE REGULATIONS?

THE STATE OF INDIANA GOVERNS CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION THROUGH THE INDIANA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (REGULATIONS).

WHY AM I REQUIRED TO HAVE A BACKFLOW DEVICE WITH MY IRRIGATION SYSTEM?

PER 327 IAC 8-10-6: CUSTOMERS SHALL CONSTRUCT AN AIR GAP OR INSTALL A REDUCED PRESSURE (RP) PRINCIPLE BACKFLOW PREVENTER OR PRESSURE TYPE VACUUM BREAKER (PVB) ON THE WATER LINE CONNECTING THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY TO ANY LAND IRRIGATION FACILITY BURIED BELOW GROUND WHICH HAS A SPRINKLING OUTLET LOCATED LESS THAN SIX (6) INCHES ABOVE GRADE, AND WHICH IS CONSTRUCTED AFTER JULY 19, 1985.

HOW OFTEN MUST MY BACKFLOW DEVICE BE TESTED?

PER CITY ORDINANCE §50.17(F): **EVERY YEAR PRIOR TO THE START-UP** OF ANY EXISTING LAWN IRRIGATION SYSTEM, THE PROPERTY OWNER SHALL PROVIDE A BACKFLOW TEST IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CHAPTER AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL STATE CROSS-CONNECTION REGULATIONS. DOCUMENTATION OF THIS TESTING MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CITY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT @ 590 E. ANDERSON STREET, CROWN POINT, IN, 46307 WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF THE TESTING.

WHO CAN TEST MY BACKFLOW DEVICE?

PER 327 IAC 8-10-9: ALL TESTERS ARE REQUIRED TO BE CERTIFIED AND REGISTERED WITH THE STATE OF INDIANA AND LICENSED AS A BACKFLOW TESTER WITH THE CITY OF CROWN POINT.

WHAT ARE THE REPORTING PROCEDURES?

PER 327 IAC 8-10-9: THE INSPECTOR SHALL REPORT TO THE SUPPLIER OF WATER, THE CUSTOMER AND, IF REQUESTED, THE COMMISSIONER, ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSIONER, THE RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS OR TESTS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO 327 IAC 8-10-8 ON AIR GAPS, REDUCED PRESSURE PRINCIPLE BACKFLOW PREVENTERS, DOUBLE CHECK VALVE ASSEMBLIES, AND PRESSURE TYPE VACUUM BREAKERS. REPORTS SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE SUPPLIER OF WATER AND TO THE CUSTOMER WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF THE INSPECTION TEST.

IN THE SPRING: START UP PROCEDURES:

PROPERTY OWNER/IRRIGATION CUSTOMERS THAT USE ONE METER FOR BOTH DOMESTIC WATER AND IRRIGATION:

1. CONTACT ONE OF THE MANY BACKFLOW TESTERS THAT ARE LICENSED WITH THE CITY OF CROWN POINT TO SCHEDULE A BACKFLOW TEST. A LIST IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.
2. HAVE BACKFLOW DEVICE TESTED PRIOR TO ACTIVATING YOUR SYSTEM. SEND A COPY OF THE TEST RESULTS WITHIN TEN (1) DAYS TO THE CITY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT @ 590 E. ANDERSON STREET, CROWN POINT, IN, 46307 OR FAX THE RESULTS TO 219-661-2286.

PROPERTY OWNER/IRRIGATION CUSTOMER THAT USES ONE METER FOR DOMESTIC WATER AND A SECOND WATER METER FOR THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

1. CONTACT ONE OF THE MANY BACKFLOW TESTERS THAT ARE LICENSED WITH THE CITY OF CROWN POINT TO SCHEDULE A BACKFLOW TEST. A LIST IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.
2. CONTACT THE CLERK-TREASURER'S OFFICE AT 219-662-3235 **AFTER** YOU HAVE SCHEDULED AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR BACKFLOW TESTER. THE CLERK-TREASURER'S OFFICE WILL NEED TO KNOW WHEN YOUR APPOINTMENT IS SO THEY CAN SCHEDULE A METER TURN-ON.
3. HAVE BACKFLOW DEVICE TESTED PRIOR TO ACTIVATING YOUR SYSTEM. SEND A COPY OF THE TEST RESULTS WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS TO THE CITY UTILITIES

DEPARTMENT @ 590 E. ANDERSON STREET, CROWN POINT, IN, 46307 OR FAX THE RESULTS TO 219-661-2286.

IN THE FALL: WINTERIZE YOUR SYSTEM:

PROPERTY OWNER/IRRIGATION CUSTOMERS THAT USE ONE METER FOR BOTH DOMESTIC WATER AND IRRIGATION:

1. CONTACT ONE OF THE MANY IRRIGATION COMPANIES LICENSED WITH THE CITY OF CROWN POINT TO HAVE YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM SHUT DOWN AND WINTERIZED.

PROPERTY OWNER/IRRIGATION CUSTOMERS THAT USE ONE METER FOR DOMESTIC WATER AND A SECOND WATER METER FOR THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM:

1. CONTACT THE CLERK-TREASURER'S OFFICE AT 219-662-3235 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO HAVE THE WATER TURNED OFF TO YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM FOR THE WINTER.
2. CONTACT ONE OF THE MANY IRRIGATION COMPANIES LICENSED WITH THE CITY OF CROWN POINT TO HAVE YOUR SYSTEM SHUT DOWN AND WINTERIZED.